

| 24. Terminal Island (Pier 400): A, B, C, D, E |  |              |   |
|---|--|--------------|---|
| Criteria Letter                               | Criteria Description   | Criteria Met | Reason SEA meets Criteria   |
| A   | The habitat of core populations of endangered or threatened plant or animal species.   | Yes          |   |
| B   | On a regional basis, biotic communities, vegetative associations, and habitat of plant or animal species that are either unique or are restricted in distribution.   | Yes          | This area was set aside because endangered Least Terns use it for breeding in the summer. Their breeding depends on availability of forage fish, and they may not use the area consistently. In addition there may be some breeding by the Black Skimmer (bird of concern for the State and USFWS).   |
| C   | Within Los Angeles County, biotic communities, vegetative associations, and habitat of plant or animal species that are either unique or are restricted in distribution.   | Yes          | The least tern typically breeds in flat sandy areas with little vegetation that are free of disturbance. The area needs to be close to a source of the terns' prey, which are estuarine or surface-schooling marine fishes. The choice breeding areas require no disturbance because the terns make an unsheltered scoop for a nest, and eggs and nestlings would be crushed by constant traffic of vehicles or pedestrians. This kind of habitat was once common along the beaches of southern California, but has nearly disappeared as estuaries have been filled and channelized, and sandy beaches have become a favorite southern California recreation area. |
| D   | Habitat that at some point in the life cycle of a species or group of species, serves as concentrated breeding, feeding, resting, migrating grounds and is limited in availability either regionally or in Los Angeles County. | Yes          | Los Angeles has many fine beaches that are potential nesting sites, but nearly all have become recreation areas. The terns have continued to use the areas with protection from disturbance, which are a small number compared to the previously available undisturbed sites.   |
| E   | Biotic resources that are of scientific interest because they are either an extreme in physical/geographical limitations, or represent unusual variation in a population or community.   | Yes          | The Terminal Island site is named as an SEA for the summer bird breeding that occurs there  |
| F   | Areas that would provide for the preservation of relatively undisturbed examples of the original natural biotic communities in Los Angeles County.   | No           |   |